

Borough of



Stalybridge.

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# Medical Officer's Report

UPON THE

HEALTH OF STALYBRIDGE,

FOR THE

Year ended December 29th, 1906.

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WAKEFIELD ROAD,

STALYBRIDGE.

*The Chairman and Members of the Sanitary Committee.*

GENTLEMEN,

I beg to present my Report upon the Sanitary conditions in Stalybridge during the year 1906, along with statistics of the Births and Deaths and Disease incidence in the Borough.

I am, gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

WILLIAM J. HANCOCK,

Medical Officer of Health.

Jan. 21st, 1907.



# Medical Officer's Report

FOR THE

Year ended December 29th, 1906.

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The Municipal Borough of Stalybridge comprises 3,137 acres, and is divided into four Wards :—

Lancashire Ward, with an estimated population of 6,202		
Stayley Ward,	„	11,144
Dukinfield Ward,	„	8,260
Millbrook Ward,	„	3,172

Along with the neighbouring Boroughs of Ashton-under-Lyne, Dukinfield and Mossley, Stalybridge is supplied with an abundance of pure water from extensive reservoirs which have a holding capacity of close upon 900,000,000 gallons and application to the Local Government Board is now being made for powers to purchase Ashway Gap with its water rights, and to construct a large reservoir in the Chew Valley for water for compensation purposes.

The older portions of the Borough are now well sewered and extensions are constantly being made into the more outlying portions of the town. The sewage is disposed of along with that of Dukinfield at Outfall Works, situated at Bradley Hurst, in the township of Dukinfield. The Sewage Farm has an area of  $63\frac{1}{2}$  acres, and the average dry weather flow of sewage coming to the works from the combined districts is  $2\frac{1}{2}$  million gallons per 24 hours. The method of treatment is by screening, chemical precipitation (alumino ferric and ferrozone being used,) sedimentation in large tanks (of which there are 12 in two sets of 6 of 80,000 gallons capacity each) worked upon the continuous flow principle, and then passing the tank effluent on to large sand filters, which unfortunately have almost ceased to act as such owing to the clayey nature of the soil forming the body of these filters, or on to one or other of 3 plots of land for land filtration, but these plots have become more or less sewage choked. In consequence of the condition

of the sand filters and these 3 plots of land the effluent has not always been of a satisfactory character during the year, but I understand that a scheme is under consideration for remedying this state of the works.

The sludge in the tanks passes into a sludge-well from which it is ejected into a sludge tower, ready to be conveyed to 2 large presses which convert it into a satisfactory sludge cake which has been found to be of no little value as a manure.

During the year, 10,560 tons of wet sludge were taken from the tanks, of which 750 tons were sent into lagoons, the remainder being pressed into sludge cake of a weight of 2,080 tons. Of this sludge cake no less than 1,607 loads have been taken by farmers for use as manure. The road dirt or sand taken from the detritus pit amounted to 185 tons.

The chief industry of the town is cotton spinning and manufacturing, though numerous other industries are successfully carried on, such as iron and brass works, calico printing and bleach works, woollen mills and other minor industries, but under conditions not specially injurious to health.

The people are on the whole well housed, though, as may be expected in an old town such as Stalybridge, there are still some slums, which, I hope, will in time disappear, as have many already, in the course of the town's development and improvement, the people of necessity removing to better quarters. During the year a considerable block of old property in the centre of the town has been pulled down and on the site a large weaving shed has been erected.

The greater portion of the town is still on the privy ashpit system, but rapid strides are being made in the conversion of privies into either waste water or town's water closets, with receptacles for house refuse, and these conversions have mostly taken place among the worst types of privy ashpits.

Early in the year a general survey of the Sanitary Conveniences throughout the Borough was made, and I was thus enabled to place before the Sanitary Committee a report dealing with the number and kinds of these conveniences, with their suitability, with their sanitary condition, and with the need for structural or other alterations. The report also dealt with the storage, removal and disposal of both midden and house refuse, and I strongly urged the importance and the necessity of the Sanitary Authority taking steps to obtain and exercise control

over the removal and disposal of all such refuse throughout the town, and not leaving the work to be done by or through the owners as is the case in numerous instances. A sub-committee has been appointed to thoroughly consider the whole matter of refuse removal and disposal and to report their recommendations to the Sanitary Committee.

We still have no means of disposal for the refuse other than "tipping," and as several of our "tips" are almost full, and at times themselves, however well kept, become a nuisance, my Council rejoice to think that their long desired Destructor is fast approaching completion, and will shortly be in full working order.

### *Births, Deaths, and Disease Incidence in the Borough.*

During the year ended Dec. 29th, 1906, the number of Births registered in the Borough was 698; of which 342 were males and 356 females.

The birth-rate per 1,000 of the population was 24·25.

The total number of Deaths registered in the Borough was 556, of which 280 were males and 276 females.

The death-rate per 1,000 of the population was 19·3, the average for the preceding ten years being 20·6

In the respective wards the birth and death-rates are as follows :—

	Birth Rate.	Death Rate.
Lancashire Ward.....	24·3 .....	20·9
Stayley, „ .....	25·3 .....	18·75
Dukinfield „ .....	23·7 .....	20·3
Millbrook „ .....	20·5 .....	15·45

Fifty-four deaths were recorded from the seven principal zymotic diseases, giving a zymotic death-rate of 1·87

### *Infantile Mortality.*

The past year has proved somewhat severe upon infantile life 144 infants having succumbed before attaining the age of one year, giving the heavy rate of 206 per 1,000 births registered; 205 being the average of the preceding ten years.

For the respective wards the following are the rates of infantile mortality :—

	1906.		1905.
Lancashire Ward .....	236	.. .....	134
Stayley „ .....	176	.....	181
Dukinfield „ .....	244	.....	192
Millbrook „ .....	154	.....	149

The heavy infant mortality was largely due to an Epidemic of “Diarrhœa,” which prevailed in the Borough in common with the rest of the country, during the period of six weeks from Sept. 1st to Oct. 13th, when there were 39 deaths of infants under one year of age to 85 births registered, giving an infantile mortality rate for that period of 458.

In consequence of the prevalence of Diarrhœa at that time I visited the homes of every one of 28 infants under one year of age, who had died of “Diarrhœa” between Aug. 13th and Oct. 15th, and made enquires as to the condition of the infant and the mode of rearing it, and I found that they had all been artificially fed—most of them upon a great variety of foods—with the exception of one infant of eight weeks, who was said to have been kept solely to the breast, and I do think that this fact points most unmistakably to the food of the infant as the main factor in setting up the disease, whether owing to its unsuitability, its faulty preparation, the condition of the milk used, or contamination of the food before or after preparation.

Next to improper feeding as a cause of infant mortality comes exposure to cold, and in a district like Stalybridge it is difficult to obviate these causes, for often the mother must needs go out to the mill or elsewhere in order to assist in maintaining the family, and in many cases the infant is not only deprived of a mother’s milk and a mother’s care, but is also taken from a warm bed and carried through the morning air to its guardian for the day, only to be brought home again when the day’s work is over.

Public attention is repeatedly called to these matters at meetings of the Council, who have issued a leaflet of “Instructions upon the Feeding and Management of Infants” to be distributed by the Registrar whenever a birth is registered.

While much may be done by the Sanitary Authority in the way of advice and of inspection of the milk supply, where artificial feeding cannot be avoided, still it is essential that the people should be warned that the danger is likely to arise in



their own homes and is not always the fault of the purveyor, and I am convinced that it is only by getting parents and guardians to recognise their grave responsibilities so that they are fully alive to the extreme care which an infant needs during the first year of its existence, that we shall succeed in warding off those illnesses which make the loss of infant life so heavy.

### *Infectious Diseases.*

In 1891 the Infectious Diseases (Notification) Act, 1889, and the Infectious Diseases (Prevention) Act, 1890, were adopted and during the year 1906, the cases notified and the deaths occurring among them were as follows :—

	Number of Cases Notified.	Number of Deaths.
Small Pox.....	3	0
Scarlet Fever .....	31	1
Diphtheria .....	5	1
Membranous Croup .....	7	5
Typhoid Fever .....	11	1
Puerperal Fever .....	3	1
Erysipelas.....	19	0
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	79	9

Whenever infectious cases are notified, full enquiries are made by both the Sanitary Inspector and myself; all needful instructions are given and precautions taken to prevent any further spread of the disease; and any sanitary defects are noted and steps taken to remedy the same.

Whenever it is advisable, the Librarian is informed, so that the issue of books to the infected family may be temporarily stopped, and any books which have become contaminated are taken by the Sanitary Inspector and destroyed. Heads of schools are also similarly notified, so that children from infected homes may not be admitted.

It is exceedingly satisfactory to note how few cases of Infectious Diseases have been notified during the year, though we cannot expect to always maintain this small number of cases. I give for comparison the returns of previous years.

1892	1893	1894	1895	1896	1897	1898	1899	1900
<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
201	218	80	103	272	253	206	215	154
	1901	1902	1903	1904	1905	1906		
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>		
	168	274	99	145	144	79		

### *Small-Pox.*

Although Small-Pox has been more or less prevalent in the neighbouring Borough of Ashton-under-Lyne during the whole of the year, we have been most fortunate in having only 3 cases in our Borough.

The first of these cases was notified to me on June 14th, and was that of a Mr. R., 46 years of age, residing in Knowl Street. He was an overlooker at a cotton mill in Dukinfield, but how he contracted the disease it was impossible to ascertain, though it is surmised that it was whilst paying an occasional visit to Ashton-under-Lyne. He was promptly removed to the Joint Board's Small-pox Hospital at Hartshead, and every precaution was taken to prevent any further spread of the disease, fortunately with the greatest success, although the house contained no fewer than nine inmates.

The other two cases could be clearly traced and their history is sufficiently interesting and instructive to deserve recording with some detail.

A family, named S., consisting of husband, wife and two children—a boy and a girl—were in business at Woodley, but early in the year gave it up, stored their furniture at Stockport and came to stay with friends, named C., at Cockbrook, Ashton-under-Lyne, the boy, however, being sent to an Aunt's, Mrs. H., at Carrbrook. Their friends, C., had an only child, a daughter, and the two girls, of about the same age (8 years), found companions in the children at an adjoining house where chicken-pox (??) broke out.

The children played together and during the latter half of May, S.'s girl fell ill with chicken-pox (??), C's. girl remaining free. No Doctor was called in and the child was nursed by her mother and, whilst only convalescent, went at times during Whit-week to her Aunt's Mrs. H., at Carrbrook, there playing with her brother. Towards the end of June her brother broke out with supposed chicken-pox (??); no doctor was called in, and the boy was nursed for a fortnight by his Aunt, Mrs. H.

On the evening of Saturday, July 14th, I was asked by Mr. H. to see his wife as she was "very bad with chicken-pox. which she had caught from her nephew." Upon visiting her I found her suffering from well defined small-pox, and as I found

they resided just beyond the Stalybridge boundary, in the district of Mossley, I at once reported the case to Dr. Healey, Medical Officer of Health for Mossley, who had her removed the following morning to the Mossley Small-Pox Hospital.

The boy, upon his Aunt falling ill, had been sent to his grandmother's at Printworks Cottages, where resided his grandfather and grandmother and three Aunts, who looked after him until his father and mother, who had just removed to a house in Millbrook, were prepared to receive him.

At the time I visited Mrs. H., at Carrbrook, I found there a Miss E., a niece of Mrs. H., and she was detained there, word being sent to her parents, who resided at Spring Grove. The next morning, Sunday, I went to the house of Mr. and Mrs. S., at Millbrook, and found that their son had returned home from his grandmother's that morning.

The boy exhibited distinct evidences of a very recent attack of small-pox, and his sister evidences of a less recent and milder attack of small-pox. Mrs. S., appeared to be quite free from any sign of the disease, but Mr. S., had not been very well for a few days and there were a few very suspicious spots appearing about his face, neck and arms. I re-vaccinated Mr. and Mrs. S., quarantined the family at home and kept them under observation.

I then went to the E's, at Spring grove and re-vaccinated both Mr. and Mrs. E., and kept them under observation.

Next I went to the boy's grandparents' home at Printworks Cottages, where I re-vaccinated all the five inmates, whom I quarantined and kept under observation, and as the boy had been staying here for about a week I ordered his bed and mattress to be removed and destroyed and the house to be thoroughly disinfected, which were done the following morning.

I also visited the home of another of the boy's Aunt's and re-vaccinated her and her husband as the boy had been in their company the previous day.

On July 16th, there could be no doubt that Mr. S., was suffering from a very mild attack of small-pox so I had him removed at once to the Joint Board's Small-pox Hospital, where he remained until discharged on July 26th.

About the 25th of July, Mrs. E., of Spring Grove, was far from well and on the 27th, I was obliged to have her removed also to the Small-pox Hospital, as she broke out with a mild attack of Discrete Small-pox. She was discharged from the Hospital on Aug. 6th. Careful enquiry elicited the information that Mrs. E., had at times gone up to the H.'s at Carrbrook to assist during Mrs. H.'s illness and after Mrs. H. had been removed to the Mossley Small-pox Hospital and the house had been disinfected Mrs. E. went up on July 16th, and with her daughter, who was there quarantined, washed the bedding and cleaned up the house. Mrs. E.'s re-vaccination took fairly well, but on the 27th there was no mistaking the fact that she had discrete small-pox, and I am of opinion that she had contracted the disease prior to being re-vaccinated, and that the re-vaccination was not sufficiently early to prevent the development of the disease, but that it had considerably modified what would otherwise have been a severe attack of small-pox.

The vaccination record of these persons is not without interest.

C.'s girl had been vaccinated in infancy and did not take the disease.

S.'s boy and girl had never been vaccinated and both of them contracted the disease.

Mrs. H., had been vaccinated in infancy but not since then; she contracted the disease from her nephew, S.'s boy, whom she nursed.

Mrs. S., had been vaccinated in infancy and re-vaccinated when about 18 years of age. Her re-vaccination did not take, nor did she contract the disease.

Mr. S., had been vaccinated in infancy, but not since then, and he contracted a mild form of the disease before his re-vaccination took effect.

Mrs. E., had been vaccinated in infancy and not re-vaccinated until this occasion. Her re-vaccination took well, but not early enough to prevent the development of the disease which she had already contracted from her sister-in-law, Mrs. H.

All the other contacts had been vaccinated in infancy and their re-vaccination produced effects varying from the slightest irritation to well-marked results, and they all remained free from the disease.

*Scarlet Fever*, of which there were 31 cases notified with only 1 death, was of a mild type and at no period of the year showed any tendency to become epidemic.

*Diphtheria and Membranous Croup* continue to present a heavy mortality, 6 deaths out of 12 cases notified, but this I trust will be diminished with earlier application of more modern treatment.

*Typhoid Fever* occasioned 1 death out of 11 cases which were notified.

This is highly satisfactory compared with 4 deaths out of 16 cases notified during 1905, and as time goes on and progress is made in rendering the town more sanitary, I trust we shall see less and less of this insidious disease, which, I have no hesitation in saying, is certainly not distributed by our water supply, which is of the purest, but is, I believe, most frequently conveyed by the air or by flies from foul privy ashpits which exist throughout the town, but which are gradually being replaced by water closets with receptacles for garbage and ashes which are frequently and regularly emptied.

It may be convenient to refer here to the sanitary improvements which have been carried out during the year under the supervision of Mr. White, the Borough Surveyor.

### *Closet Conversions and Additions.*

SITUATION OF PROPERTY.	NO.	KIND OF WATER CLOSET.
High Street and Hollins Street .....	5	Town's Water Closets.
Castle Hall Mill, Millbrook.....	4	do. do. do.
Wheatsheaf Inn, King Street.....	1	do. do. do.
4-8, King Street.....	3	Waste do. do.
Riverside Mills.....	21	Town's do. do.
41-43, Stamford Street.....	2	do. do. do.
Hyde's Terrace.....	10	Waste do. do.
1 Pennine View.....	1	Town's do. do.
Sportsman Inn, Millbrook .....	2	do. do. do.
J. Grayson, Mottram Road.. ..	1	do. do. do.
Stamford Park Hotel.....	2	do. do. do.
60 Acres Lane .....	1	do. do. do.
145-147 Mottram Road... ..	2	Waste do. do.
10-24 Wakefield Road .....	8	Town's do. do.



SITUATION OF PROPERTY.	NO.	KIND OF WATER CLOSET.		
17 Mossley Road, Heyrod .....	1	do.	do.	do.
Lawton's Buildings, Cross Leech Street .....	2	do.	do.	do.
Lawton's Buildings, Cross Leech Street .....	2	Waste	do.	do.
86-94, High Street.....	5	Town's	do.	do.
151-155, High Street.....	3	do.	do.	do.
Grosvenor & Back Grosvenor Streets } and Melbourne Street .....	2	do.	do.	do.
	3	Waste	do.	do.
16 Stamford Street .....	1	Town's	do.	do.
166 Stamford Street.....	1	do.	do.	do.
Church Street and Wakefield Road.	3	do.	do.	do.
Sand Street and Hollins Street .....	3	do.	do.	do.
Adshead Mill.....	1	do.	do.	do.
43-51, Robinson Street.....	5	Waste	do.	do.
129-131, Stocks Lane ..	2	Town's	do.	do.
166 Huddersfield Road.....	1	Waste	do.	do.
Holly Bank, Huddersfield Road.....	2	do.	do.	do.
Free Gardeners Arms, Wood Street	1	Town's	do.	do.
"King's" Corn Mills, (Mills & Sons)	1	do.	do.	do.
Cranworth Street.....	4	do.	do.	do.
	5	Waste	do.	do.
Copley Mills .....	14	Town's	do.	do.
1-31, Copley Street .....	12	do.	do.	do.
93-95, Vaudrey Street .....	2	do.	do.	do.
17-31, Ridge Hill Lanes .....	7	Waste	do.	do.
31 Ridge Hill Lanes .....	1	Town's	do.	do.
1-17, Harrison Street .....	9	Waste	do.	do.
Gledhall Street and Sidebottom Street .....	23	do.	do.	do.
Gledhall Street and Sidebottom Street .....	1	Town's	do.	do.
Thomas Street .....	3	do.	do.	do.
Congregational Schools .....	8	do.	do.	do.
100-110, Wakefield Road.....	6	Waste	do.	do.
81-83, Market Street.....	2	Town's	do.	do.
34 Bayley Street .....	1	do.	do.	do.
23 Grosvenor Street.....	1	do.	do.	do.
"Convent" Spring Bank Street ...	1	do.	do.	do.
18-20, Robinson Street.....	2	do.	do.	do.
29-37, Groby Street .....	5	Waste	do.	do.
Total.....	209	in all.		

## *Diseases of the Lungs.*

	Number of Deaths.		Death Rate.	
	1906	1905	1906	1905
Phthisis.....	36	27	1.25	0.95
Bronchitis, Pneumonia, &c.	121	111	4.2	3.87

The year has been remarkable for sudden changes in its climatic conditions which have considerably increased the already great number of deaths from diseases of the lungs and with these the deaths from phthisis.

In several cases during the year disinfection of the apartments occupied by consumptives has been carried out by the Sanitary Authority, who are anxious to do this work as thoroughly as in other infectious cases whenever requested.

## *Cancer.*

No less than 28 deaths from Cancer (including "Malignant Disease") have taken place during the year. The average number of deaths from cancer for the previous five years 1901-5 was 25.

This is undoubtedly a heavy mortality from an insidious and very rarely curable disease, which appears to have been on the increase during recent years in our borough as in other parts of the country.

Allowing for more exact recognition of the disease than was possible in former years, this increase is a very real increase, but the reason of it is as yet undetermined.

Examining the cases in our borough during the year I find the deaths distributed thus:—

	Wards—Millbrook.	Lancashire.	Dukinfield.	Stayley.
Population.	3,172	6,202	8,260	11,144
No. of deaths } from Cancer }	2	5	9	12

a distribution which indicates no special locality for the disorder but which fairly corresponds with the population of the respective districts.

Ages at death } from Cancer. }	30-35	35-40	40-45	45-50	50-55	55-60	60-65	65-70	70-75	75-80 years.
	1	0	1	3	4	4	5	4	5	1

Seat of } disease }	Mouth.	Digestive Tract.	Liver.	Breast.	Uterus.	Other parts or Organs
	2	7	5	5	5	4

As regards sex, eight of the deaths were of males, and twenty were of females.

## *The Midwives' Act, 1902.*

No woman is entitled to use the name or description of "midwife" unless she has obtained the certificate of the Central Midwives' Board.

At the beginning of the year 1906, there were 21 midwives residing in and practising in the Borough, but during the year one of them has died, another has removed into an adjoining Borough, and still another has ceased to act owing to impaired health, and at the end of the year we have but 18 midwives on the register. Two of them are fully trained, two are partially trained, while the others have acquired their skill by years of practice.

Three cases of puerperal fever were notified during the year with one death. The case in which death ensued was attended by one of our midwives, and I suspended her from further practice until such time as I was satisfied that both herself and her clothing had been made free from infection. The other two cases occurred in the practice of a midwife from the Borough of Ashton-under-Lyne, and a midwife from the Borough of Mossley and these when they had finished with their cases were dealt with by their respective authorities.

I am not aware that the habit of going about "laying out the dead" is still persisted in, at any rate whilst they are following their ordinary calling, but I have had occasion to warn several of the midwives that it is their duty to notify me of any still-births which may occur in their practice, for I find that some are apt to neglect this duty.

## *Common Lodging Houses.*

There are only two Common Lodging Houses in the Borough. They have been visited on several occasions and attention has been drawn to any defective sanitary conditions which have been observed. Both of them are kept in a clean condition, but at one of them the sanitary conveniences were found to be far from satisfactory and they were ordered to be reconstructed and this work is now being carried out.

## *Sale of Food and Drugs Acts.*

These Acts are administered by the Watch Committee, and I must refer you to the Chief Constable's Report for any particulars regarding the same.



My attention was drawn by the Police to a quantity of bananas exposed for sale on the market ground, and I had no hesitation in pronouncing them "unsound." I ordered them to be seized, and after they had been condemned by a Justice of the Peace they were destroyed. The matter was duly reported to my Committee and the vendor was summoned before them and severely reprimanded.

### *Meat Inspection.*

During the year the Meat Inspector, Mr. Edward Brown, has inspected the carcasses of 25 Pigs, which were slaughtered on unlicensed premises in various parts of the Borough. He found them all sound and in good condition.

He also inspected at a farm the carcase of a Bull which had been slaughtered owing to its having broken its leg. The broken leg was cut away and not sold for food.

Three cows slaughtered by Butchers on licensed premises were reported to the Meat Inspector as "graped." In one instance the cow was so extensively "graped" that we had no hesitation in condemning the whole carcase, which was removed and destroyed by the Sanitary Officials. In the other two instances the disease was more or less localised and we ordered the affected parts to be freely cut away and destroyed.

The Meat Inspector's attention was also called by a tripe dresser to 12 sets of tripe, which came to him in an unsound condition. They were removed and destroyed.

A farmer, who had, without notifying the Meat Inspector, slaughtered and dressed for sale the carcasses of a cow and several pigs on his farm premises which were not licensed for that purpose, appeared before the Sanitary Committee to explain his conduct. He was severely reprimanded and informed that in case of any repetition of the offence proceedings would be taken against him.

Early in the summer attention was called to the practice of "blowing" in dressing carcasses, and I found that the practice was largely employed in our district. A circular letter was sent by me to all the butchers, informing them that the Sanitary Authority were desirous that in the interest of the public the practice should be discontinued and soliciting their compliance in this matter, and I am now informed by the Meat Inspector that the practice has all but ceased.

It gives me much pleasure to acknowledge the ready co-operation of the butchers with us in this and other matters for it was the butcher who in each instance called the attention of the Meat Inspector to the condition of the carcasses which were "graped," and if only they continue to work in harmony with the Sanitary Authority it will be better for the public and better for the butchers themselves, for while the one will derive the advantage of sound meat, the others will reap the benefit of growing confidence in them.

### *Factory and Workshop Act.*

The Factories in the Borough (including Workshop Factories) number 65. At two of the Factories the Sanitary conveniences have during the year been added to and put into a satisfactory condition. Notice has been served upon other three Factories and the defects will shortly be remedied.

As regards the Workshops, of which there are at present 140 on the register, several of these have received the attention of the Sanitary Inspector in such matters as want of ventilation, want of limewashing and general cleanliness, omission to affix Abstract, insufficient Sanitary accommodation, and other minor defects.

The majority of the Bakehouses are kept in a very satisfactory condition and none of them are underground. They have been visited both by the Sanitary Inspector and myself and attention has been called to any defect or insanitary condition observed.

The following tabulated summary shows the work done during the year :—

#### I. INSPECTION.

Including Inspections made by Sanitary Inspector.

PREMISES.	NUMBER OF		
	<i>Inf</i> ections.	Written Notices.	Prosecutions
Factories (including Factory Laundries).....	64	3	..
Workshops, Workplaces .....	140	2	..
Total.....	204	5	..

## II. DEFECTS FOUND.

PARTICULARS.	NUMBER OF DEFECTS.			Number of Prosecutions.
	Found.	Remedied	Referred to H.M. Inspector	
Nuisances under the Public Health Acts :				
Want of Cleanliness .....	4	3	..	..
Want of Ventilation .....	1	1	..	..
Overcrowding .....	..	..	..	..
Want of Drainage of Floors .....	..	..	..	..
Other Nuisances .....	2	1	..	..
Sanitary Accommodation { Insufficient.....	2	1	..	..
{ Unsuitable or Defective	4	1	..	..
{ Not Separate for Sexes	..	..	..	..
Offences under Factory and Workshop Act :				
Illegal Occupation of Underground Bakehouse.....	..	..	..	..
Breach of Special Sanitary Requirements for Bakehouses.....	2	2	..	..
Other Offences.....	1	..	..	..
Total.....	16	9	..	..

## III. HOME WORK.

Lists received from Employers twice in the year	Lists.....	4
	Outworkers.....	4
Number of Addresses of Outworkers received from other Councils.....		2
Number of Addresses of Outworkers forwarded to other Councils .....		2
Number of Inspections of Outworkers' Premises .....		1
Prosecutions .....		..
Total .....		13

## IV. REGISTERED WORKSHOPS.

Dressmakers and Milliners .....	30
Boot and Shoe Makers .....	21
Plumbers, etc.....	13
Bakehouses .....	15
Drysaltern, etc. ....	7
Tailors .....	7
Various others.....	47
	<hr/>
Total Number of Workshops on the Register	140

## V. OTHER MATTERS.

Class.		Number
Matters Notified to H.M. Inspector of Factories :—		
Failure to affix Abstract of the Factory and Workshop Act.....		15
Action taken in matters referred by H.M. Inspector, as remediable under the Public Health Acts, but not under the Factory and Workshop Act .....	Notified by H.M. Inspector .....	..
	Reports (of Action taken) sent to H.M. Inspector .....	..
Other.....		..
Underground Bakehouses.....		..

*The Sanitary Inspector, Mr. W. J. Bradbury, submits the following Report upon the work done in his department.*

## HEALTH DEPARTMENT.

The following table gives a summary of the general nuisances which have received attention during the year ending December 31st, 1906 :—

Wet and Insanitary ashpits .. .. .	60
Defective and dilapidated closets .. .. .	24
Blocked water closets.. .. .	39
Blocked drains .. .. .	45
Defective slopstone and sink pipes.. .. .	15
Defective and untrapped drains .. .. .	14
Defective rubble and pipe drains .. .. .	11
Accumulation of manure and defective pits .. .. .	9
Foul water in cellars.. .. .	6
Defective urinals and unventilated water closets.. .. .	4
Insufficient ashtub accommodation .. .. .	15
Closets discharge into River .. .. .	4
Insufficient closet accommodation.. .. .	4
Dilapidated ashpits .. .. .	2
Fowls so kept as to be a nuisance .. .. .	2
Untrapped water closets .. .. .	15
Closets without water connection .. .. .	35
Defective flagging of yard.. .. .	1
Dirty passage .. .. .	1
Dirty privy .. .. .	1
House chimney nuisance .. .. .	2
Full ashpits.. .. .	272
<b>Total.. .. .</b>	<b>581</b>

Generally speaking the nuisances have received attention shortly after the preliminary notices have been served, but fourteen legal notices have been served for abatement by your Committee's instructions. It has been found necessary to institute legal proceedings against the owners of four blocks of property before the abatement was taken into consideration.

**Dairies and Cowsheds.**—Under this head there are 35 farmsteads and four which may be termed "town's" shippens and dairies—the grazing land being on the outskirts of the town. The farm buildings, including the dairy accommodation, are in many cases of a very unsatisfactory character, some of which are unfit for the accommodation of cattle, and the storage of milk and other products from the same source.

A special report was compiled of six of these farmsteads which your Committee has considered, and these farmsteads were visited and inspected by your Dairies and Cowsheds Sub-Committee, viz.:—Stayley Hall Farm, Souracre Farm, Flaxfield Farm, Burnfold Farm, Tonge Green Farm, Staley Hill Farm.

After visiting and inspecting the same, your Committee felt that it was necessary to take steps to bring about a change in respect to these conditions as soon as possible, and a copy of the report was ordered to be sent to the Trustees of the Stamford Estate, the owners of the said farms. A meeting was arranged between the owners and your Sub-Committee when these farms were discussed in detail as to the drainage, condition of floors, lighting, ventilation, and storage of manure, also as to the dairy accommodation.

As a result of the meeting two new shippens are proposed to be erected, and various suggestions of other alterations as required were considered and noted.

Your Sub-Committee has also a further special report to be considered at an early date.

**Milkshops.**—The number of milkshops on the register at present is 42, one of an increase on last year.

Several changes of occupiers have occurred and one or two have ceased to keep milk, but several others have applied for registration so keeping the number almost stationary.

There has been nothing to complain of this year as the retailers have kept their milk vessels very cleanly and placed them in position where the milk would be the least subject to contamination, for after all the retailing of milk in nearly every case is only a small part of the business.

**Slaughter-houses.**—There are now 20 Slaughter-houses within the Borough. Of this number nine are now subject to the renewal of the licenses annually as required by the "Public Health Act, Amendment Act, 1890." The remaining eleven are registered by previous Acts.

There has been no change with regard to the structural conditions of these premises since the last Annual Report. The conditions as to size and position of several of these premises are far from satisfactory.



As a general rule the premises are maintained in a good condition after taking into consideration the existing circumstances. The general cleanliness and whitewashing have received attention and the Byelaws and regulations have been adhered to. The offal and other garbage are regularly removed from the premises by your Cleansing Department

**Offensive Trades.**—The one offensive trade, as scheduled under the Public Health Act, is that of tripe boiling. The trade is fairly well localised, and taken as a whole the premises are kept in a good sanitary condition, well ventilated, whitewashed, and clean, the occupiers carrying on their business with the minimum of nuisance.

**Smoke Observations.**—There are about 40 chimneys that come within the meaning of section 91 of the Public Health Act, 1875. During the past year 70 observations have been taken. In 19 instances the time (ten minutes in the hour) allowed for dense smoke has been exceeded. No proceedings have been instituted, but abatement notices have been served in several cases.

One or two firms have attached to their boiler furnaces special appliances for the prevention of dense smoke and these appliances have worked with marked success since their institution.

**Infectious Diseases.**—Seventy-nine cases of infectious disease have been investigated and reported upon as against 144 cases last year. The defects in the sanitary arrangements have received attention and were remedied by the owners with few exceptions.

After the attending medical practitioner has certified the patient or patients free from infection the houses are fumigated and disinfected. The number of houses so treated was 51. This number includes several premises where phthisis has been present, and at which at the request of the tenants, fumigation has been carried out.

## CLEANSING DEPARTMENT.

The following table shows the return of the number of ashpits, ashbins, and privy pails emptied and the number of loads removed and deposited at the tips during each month of the year :—

Month.	Ashbins.	Privy Pails & Ashpits.	Loads.
January.. ..	3083 ..	513 ..	711 ..
February.. ..	2611 ..	414 ..	614 ..
March .. ..	1682 ..	398 ..	578 ..
April .. ..	2256 ..	338 ..	548 ..
May .. ..	2992 ..	490 ..	752 ..
June .. ..	2471 ..	388 ..	543 ..
July .. ..	3062 ..	417 ..	669 ..
August.. ..	2526 ..	393 ..	663 ..
September .. ..	2554 ..	486 ..	571 ..
October.. ..	3418 ..	446 ..	609 ..
November .. ..	2666 ..	371 ..	390 ..
December .. ..	2175 ..	313 ..	414 ..
Total..	31396	4967	7061

It will be seen on comparing this table with that of last year that a larger number of ashbins and ashtubs has been emptied and the number of ashpits has been reduced. This may be accounted for chiefly by the adoption of the water-carriage system in lieu of the privy midden system.

In the total of the loads may be included the butchers' and fish offal, which is collected two or three times per week. This is, at present, deposited on the "Wilson's" tip.

The number of privy pails has been slightly decreased within the past year, and where the Corporation pails have been bought by the owners, your department continues to replace and repair when necessary.

A table showing the approximate number of middens, &c., that exist in each Ward within the Borough.

Ward.	Privy Middens.	Dry Ashpits.	Ash- bins.	Total.
Lancashire Ward ..	188 ..	47 ..	470 ..	705
Stayley Ward .. ..	483 ..	131 ..	456 ..	1070
Millbrook Ward ..	121 ..	26 ..	85 ..	232
Dukinfield Ward ..	279 ..	65 ..	181 ..	525
	1071	269	1192	2532



**The Tips.**—The tips, with one exception—the “Brushes”—are now almost completed. In fact, during the year two of the tips have been filled up, namely, the “Hollins” and “Wilson’s” tips. The tip known as “Tucker’s,” which has been the largest and most frequently used owing to it being the easiest of access, has but accommodation for about two or three months.

The Destructor, which is now nearing completion, will not only take the place of the tips for disposing of the refuse, but will do away with the necessity of providing further tipping accommodation, which would have been indeed a difficult problem if the old system of disposing the refuse at tips had been continued.

Systematic inspections have been made of various parts of the borough, and many nuisances have thus been discovered and caused to be remedied.

### *Report upon Canal Boats.*

SANITARY OFFICE,

TOWN HALL,

STALYBRIDGE, JAN. 3rd, 1907.

*To the Chairman and Members of the Sanitary Committee.*

GENTLEMEN,

In presenting the Annual Report upon Canal Boats for the past year, I beg to state that twenty-four boats have been duly inspected and found to be in a good sanitary condition.

There has been no contravention of the “Canal Boats Acts” by any of the boats or boatman. Only one boat carried a female and a child, the others were all occupied by men only. All the occupants appeared to be in good health, and free from infectious disease.

I am,

Yours obediently,

W. J. BRADBURY.

## NUMBER OF DEATHS.

FOR THE YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 29TH, 1906.

*Causes of Death.*

Small Pox .. .. .	0
Measles.. .. .	2
Scarlet Fever .. .. .	1
Whooping Cough .. .. .	0
Diphtheria and Membranous Croup .. .. .	6
Enteric Fever .. .. .	1
Epidemic Influenza .. .. .	0
Cholera.. .. .	0
Plague .. .. .	0
Diarrhœa .. .. .	29
Enteritis.. .. .	15
Puerperal Fever.. .. .	1
Erysipelas .. .. .	0
Other Septic Diseases.. .. .	0
Phthisis.. .. .	37
Other Tubercular Diseases .. .. .	26
Cancer, Malignant Disease .. .. .	28
Bronchitis .. .. .	63
Pneumonia .. .. .	49
Pleurisy .. .. .	1
Other Diseases of Respiratory Organs.. .. .	8
Alcoholism, Cirrhosis of Liver.. .. .	3
Premature Birth.. .. .	7
Diseases and Accidents of Parturition .. .. .	8
Heart Diseases .. .. .	44
Accidents .. .. .	11
Suicides.. .. .	4
All other causes.. .. .	213
	<hr/> 556

*Ages at which Death occurred.*

Under 1 year of age .. .. .	144
Between 1 and 5 years of age .. .. .	51
"    5 and 15 .. .. .	13
"    15 and 25 .. .. .	31
"    25 and 65 .. .. .	197
"    65 and upwards .. .. .	120
	<hr/> 556

*Deaths.*

Male .. .. .	280
Female .. .. .	276
	<hr/> 556

Male	. . . . .	342
Female	. . . . .	356
		<hr/>
		698

Estimated Population, 28,738.

[illegible]

*Deaths in Different Wards.*

[illegible]

The following table will show the number of deaths in each year from the seven chief zymotic diseases, as well as the various Death-rates for the past ten years, and also the deaths of children under 1 year of age to 1000 births registered:—

	1897	1898	1899	1900	1901	1902	1903	1904	1905	1906
Smallpox .....	0	0	0	5	0	1	1	4	0	0
Measles .....	43	19	32	14	0	32	1	48	9	2
Scarlet fever .....	18	11	3	1	4	7	4	3	2	1
Diphtheria and Membranous Croup .....	3	1	5	0	1	18	7	6	6	6
Whooping Cough .....	12	17	1	41	1	3	19	8	11	0
Fever of con- (Typhus.....	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
tinued character (Enteric.....	3	23	12	14	12	7	4	6	4	1
Diarrhoea and dysentery .....	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Deaths from the 7 chief zymotic diseases .....	22	27	23	23	36	6	14	36	21	44
Deaths from other causes .....	101	95	76	98	54	74	50	111	53	54
Totals for each year due to the Borough .....	505	612	562	547	539	496	454	418	436	502
Death-rate from the 7 zymotic diseases per 1000.....	606	707	638	645	593	570	504	529	489	556
Death-rate from all other causes per 1000.....	3.5	3.3	2.6	3.4	1.9	2.6	1.7	3.9	1.85	1.87
General death-rate per 1000.....	17.9	21.5	19.7	19.0	19.4	17.8	16.1	14.7	15.15	17.43
Deaths of children under 1 year of age to 1000 births registered .....	21.4	24.8	22.3	22.4	21.3	20.4	17.8	18.6	17.0	19.3
	184	239	240	253	221	176	190	210	177	206

Daily Meteorological Observations taken at 9 o'clock a.m. at Stamford Park by Samuel Turner  
Park Superintendent.

[illegible]

**TABLE I.**  
**NAME OF DISTRICT, STALYBRIDGE.**

YEAR	Populati'n estimated to Middle of each Year	BIRTHS		DEATHS UNDER ONE YEAR OF AGE.		DEATHS AT ALL AGES. TOTAL		DEATHS IN PUBLIC INSTITU- TIONS
		Number	Rate*	Num- ber	Rate per 1000 Births regist'e'd	Number	Rate*	
1896	28044	837	29.8	141	168	572	20.3	
1897	28295	812	28.6	150	184	606	21.4	45
1898	28429	771	27.1	185	239	707	24.8	70
1899	28575	743	26.0	179	240	638	22.3	41
1900	28680	694	24.1	176	253	645	22.4	66
1901	27754	678	24.4	150	221	593	21.3	66
1902	27938	696	24.9	123	176	570	20.4	58
1903	28222	730	25.8	139	190	504	17.8	58
1904	28415	675	23.7	142	210	529	18.6	47
1905	28636	712	24.86	126	177	489	17.0	50
Average's for years 1896-1905	28298	734	25.92	151	205	585	20.6	55
1906	28778	698	24.25	144	206	556	19.3	†56

\*Rates calculated per 1,000 of estimated population.

	At Census of 1901.
Total population at all ages . . . . .	27,674
Number of inhabited houses . . . . .	6,288
Average number of persons per house . . . . .	4.4
Area of District in acres (exclusive of area covered by water . . . . .)	3,137

† Deaths in this column are all apportioned to the Districts in which they lived before removal.

**TABLE II.**  
**NAME OF DISTRICT, STALYBRIDGE.**

NAMES OF LOCALITIES	BOROUGH.				LANCASHIRE WARD				STAYLEY WARD.				DUKINFIELD WARD				MILLBROOK WARD			
	Population esti- mated to middle of each Year.	Births Registered.	Deaths at all Ages.	Deaths under 1 year.	Population esti- mated to Middle of each Year.	Births Registered.	Deaths at all Ages	Deaths under 1 year	Population esti- mated to middle of each Year.	Births Registered	Deaths at all Ages	Deaths under 1 year	Population esti- mated to middle of each Year	Births Registered	Deaths at all Ages	Deaths under 1 year	Population esti- mated to middle of each Year	Births Registered	Deaths at all Ages	Deaths under Year
1896....	28044	837	572	141	6143	180	107	24	10555	302	182	47	8213	278	185	57	3133	77	41	11
1897....	28295	812	606	150	6236	201	108	33	10611	290	234	64	8287	236	162	41	3161	85	57	11
1898....	28429	771	707	185	6286	179	147	37	10642	268	237	59	8338	237	206	78	3181	67	47	8
1899....	28575	743	638	179	6331	205	142	38	10690	271	223	67	8358	212	192	63	3196	55	40	10
1900....	28680	694	645	176	6345	146	132	40	10740	260	204	55	8390	232	200	67	3209	56	43	12
1901....	27754	678	593	150	5994	124	131	26	10805	236	225	50	7935	233	197	65	3020	85	40	8
1902....	27938	696	570	123	6016	139	117	23	10833	261	183	49	7984	222	173	44	3055	74	39	7
1903....	28222	703	504	139	6069	140	111	28	10954	262	207	53	8100	251	151	47	3099	77	35	9
1904....	28415	675	529	142	6125	157	101	33	10990	235	199	55	8167	213	146	43	3133	70	36	7
1905....	28636	712	489	126	6180	157	102	21	11069	247	168	45	8232	239	174	46	3155	67	45	10
Average's of Years 1896 to 1905	28298	734	585	151	6172	162	119	30	10788	263	206	54	8200	237	178	55	3134	71	42	9
1906....	28778	698	556	144	6202	152	130	36	11144	284	209	50	8260	196	163	48	3172	66	49	10



TABLE III.

## NAME OF DISTRICT, STALYBRIDGE.

CASES OF INFECTIOUS DISEASE NOTIFIED DURING THE YEAR 1906.

Notifiable Disease	Cases Notified in whole District.						Total Cases Notified in each Locality				No. of Cases Removed to Hospital from each Locality.				
	At all Ages.	Under 1.	1 to 5	5 to 15	15 to 25	25 to 65	65 and up-wards	Lancashire Ward	Stayley Ward	Dukinfield Ward	Millbrook Ward	Lancashire Ward	Stayley Ward	Dukinfield Ward	Millbrook Ward
Small-Pox .. .. .	3	0	0	0	3	3	0	0	1	0	2	0	1	0	2
Diphtheria .....	5	1	1	3	0	0	0	0	2	2	1	0	0	0	0
Membranous Croup	7	0	6	1	0	0	0	1	4	1	1	0	0	0	0
Erysipelas .....	19	0	0	3	1	14	1	5	6	7	1	0	0	0	0
Scarlet Fever.....	31	1	9	20	1	0	0	4	13	14	0	0	0	0	0
Enteric Fever ....	11	0	0	3	2	6	0	0	2	9	0	0	0	0	0
Puerperal Fever ..	3	0	0	0	1	2	0	1	0	1	1	0	0	0	0
Totals..	79	2	16	30	5	25	1	11	28	34	6	0	1	0	2

ISOLATION HOSPITAL—JOINT BOARD'S SMALLPOX HOSPITAL

AND BOROUGH HOSPITAL, ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE.



**TABLE IV.**  
NAME OF DISTRICT, STALYBRIDGE.  
CAUSES OF, AND AGES AT, DEATH DURING THE YEAR 1906.

Cause of Death	Deaths in whole District at Subjoined Ages						Deaths in Localities (at all Ages)				Deaths in Public Institutions	
	At all Ages	Under 1	1 and under 5	5 and under 15	15 and under 25	25 and under 65	65 and upwards	Lancashire Ward	Stayley Ward	Dakinfield Ward		Millbrook Ward
Smallpox .....	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Measles .....	2	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0
Scarlet Fever ..	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0
Whooping Cough .....	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Diphtheria & Membranous Croup	6	1	4	1	0	0	0	1	3	1	1	0
Enteric Fever.....	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0
Diarrhœa.....	29	20	5	0	0	0	4	3	15	10	1	0
Enteritis .....	15	13	1	0	0	0	1	5	6	3	1	0
Puerperal Fever.....	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	0	0
Other septic diseases .....	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Phthisis .....	36	0	0	0	6	28	2	11	12	11	2	0
Other tubercular diseases.....	26	11	7	1	5	2	0	3	6	16	1	0
Cancer, malignant disease ..	28	0	0	0	0	18	10	5	12	9	2	0
Bronchitis .....	63	18	10	0	0	20	15	12	22	23	6	0
Pneumonia .....	49	8	10	1	4	21	5	12	19	13	5	0
Pleurisy .....	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	0
Other diseases--Respiratory organs	8	1	0	0	0	2	5	0	5	3	0	0
Alcoholism, Cirrhosis of Liver ..	3	0	0	0	0	3	0	0	0	2	1	0
Veneral Diseases.....	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Premature Birth .....	7	7	0	0	0	0	0	1	3	2	1	0
Diseases & accidents of parturition	8	0	0	0	3	5	0	3	2	0	3	0
Heart Disease .....	44	0	1	1	4	28	10	15	10	15	4	0
Accidents ..	11	2	1	3	0	5	0	2	3	5	1	0
Suicides .....	4	0	0	0	0	4	0	2	0	1	1	0
All other causes .....	213	63	9	5	9	59	68	55	87	52	19	0
All causes....	556	144	51	13	31	197	120	130	209	168	49	0

TABLE V.

NAME OF DISTRICT, STALYBRIDGE.

## INFANTILE MORTALITY DURING THE YEAR 1906.

Deaths from stated Causes in Weeks and Months under One Year of Age.

CAUSE OF DEATH.	ALL CAUSES.																Total Deaths under One Year.
	Under 1 Week	1-2 Weeks	2-3 Weeks	3-4 Weeks	Total under 1 Month	1-2 Months	2-3 Months	3-4 Months	4-5 Months	5-6 Months	6-7 Months	7-8 Months	8-9 Months	9-10 Months	10-11 Months	11-12 Months	
Certified .....	17	3	14	6	40	20	17	15	10	12	6	8	4	5	3	4	144
Uncertified .....	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Measles .....	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Diphtheria—Croup .....	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
Diarrhoea, all forms .....	0	0	2	0	2	2	2	4	3	0	2	2	1	1	1	0	20
Enteritis .....	0	0	0	1	1	3	2	3	0	2	1	0	0	1	0	0	13
Gastritis, Gastro-intestinal Catarrh .....	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	4
Premature Birth .....	5	0	1	0	6	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	7
Congenital Defects .....	1	0	1	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2
Atrophy, Debility, Marasmus .....	6	2	7	5	20	3	5	1	1	3	0	1	1	0	0	0	35
Tuberculous Peritonitis .....	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	2
Other Tuberculous Diseases .....	0	0	0	0	0	2	1	1	0	2	0	1	1	0	0	2	10
Meningitis (not Tuberculous) .....	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	1
Convulsions .....	4	0	1	0	5	2	4	3	3	2	1	1	0	1	0	1	18
Bronchitis .....	0	0	0	0	0	2	1	0	3	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	13
Pneumonia .....	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	2	1	1	0	1	2	1	8
Suffocation (overlying) .....	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	2
Other Causes .....	0	1	2	0	3	1	1	2	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	8
	17	3	14	6	40	20	17	15	10	12	6	8	4	5	3	4	144



